

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 24, 2025 AT 7:00 P.M.
MUNICIPAL OFFICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KENILWORTH
HYBRID MEETING - IN PERSON AND VIA WEB CONFERENCING
[February 24, 2025, Township of Wellington North Council Meeting \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)**

Members Present:

**Mayor: Andrew Lennox
Councillors: Sherry Burke
Lisa Hern (via Zoom)
Steve McCabe
Penny Renken**

Staff Present:

**Chief Administrative Officer: Brooke Lambert
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk: Karren Wallace
Deputy Clerk: Catherine Conrad
Director of Finance: Jeremiah Idialu
Human Resources Manager: Amy Tollefson
Chief Building Official: Darren Jones
Senior Project Manager: Tammy Stevenson
Manager Environment and Development Services: Corey Schmidt
Manager Recreation Community & Economic Development: Mandy Jones
Manager of Development Planning: Curtis Marshall**

CALLING TO ORDER

Mayor Lennox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

RESOLUTION: 2025-059

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Agenda for the February 24, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council be accepted and passed.

CARRIED

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No pecuniary interest disclosed.

O'CANADA

COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE

Steve O'Neill, County Councillor, Ward 4

County Councillor O'Neill provided an update on Solid Waste Services.

- This winter has been challenging for the contractor, Waste Management, to keep collections on schedule. Problems and delays have been County wide. County staff have been working with Waste Management on solutions. Waste Management has brought in extra staff from outside the area, are actively recruiting staff, and have brought in third party collectors to cover the routes. They also alert County staff at the end of the day if collections are not going to

be completed. Staff can use Recycle Coach and other social media to let residents know to either leave materials out or put them out for pick up the next morning for collection.

- Residents should not see any changes to recycling pick up when producers assume responsibility on July 1st. Producers will not pick up recyclable materials from commercial, industrial and institutional sectors. The County identified fourteen business cores affected and is proactively working to ensure recycling services remain uninterrupted for downtown businesses. County officials are actively reaching out to businesses, visiting downtown areas to provide information and discuss available recycling options. Businesses outside the core areas will be offered a chance to register for a minimum fee exemption card to permit them to drop off their recyclable materials at Riverstown, or any other transfer stations throughout the County, free of charge. Information is available on the County website under Solid Waste Services.

Councillor Renken inquired how collection will work with collection beginning at 6:00 a.m. with no vehicles in front of the carts, and what will happen later in the day when it is more likely there will be vehicles parked along the street. Councillor O'Neill responded it will be the same as other places that have this service.

Councillor McCabe asked if there is a way to recoup the \$130,000 cost for this service, and will residents be getting wheeled bins too. Councillor O'Neill explained that the County will save almost \$2 million dollars when they don't have to pick up the blue box materials. Residential pickup will probably move to wheeled bins.

Mayor Lennox stated that he will be advocating for expansion of the areas of pick up for businesses.

Councillor McCabe inquired about businesses in the rural areas. Mayor Lennox explained that County Council decided to provide additional service and just look after downtown core businesses. They looked at expanding across the County, but the cost was very significant. Businesses outside of the core area can obtain a card to take it to Riverstown or a transfer station for free.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, Phil Beard, General Manager-Secretary Treasurer, and Ed Podniewicz, Council Representative

- 2025 Draft Budget

Mr. Podniewicz reviewed the development of the 2025 workplan and budget based on services and programs included in the agreement developed with municipalities in 2022. The four-year agreement must be renewed by July 1, 2026. In 2023 MVCA members committed to a three-year plan to strengthen the capacity of our watershed stewardship extension services, so they improve capability to work with landowners to identify and implement stewardship practices.

Mr. Beard provided an overview of the Conservation Authority's 2025 Draft Work Plan and Budget, vision, mission, goals, priorities, projects, services, programs, property, drinking water source protection, and 2025 budget and levy.

MVCA's draft budget for 2025 is \$4,654,600. The Township of Wellington North 2025 levy increase is \$4,229. with a total Wellington North 2025 levy of \$60,657.

The Maitland Valley Conservation Authority Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 26th at 2:00 p.m. at the Blyth Festival Hall

RECESS TO MOVE INTO MEETINGS UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

RESOLUTION: 2025-060

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North recess the February 24, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council at 7:22 p.m. for the purpose of holding meetings under the Planning Act.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

- A01/25 Minor Variance – 12375521 Canada Incorporated (335 Smith St)
- A02/25 Minor Variance – 12375521 Canada Incorporated (341 Smith St)

PUBLIC MEETING

- ZBA 19/24 Township of Wellington North (MF Pool)
- ZBA 02/25 Cachet Developments (Arthur) Inc. (321 Domville St)

RESUME REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

RESOLUTION: 2025-061

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North resume the February 24, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council at 8:03 p.m.

CARRIED

PASSAGE OF BY-LAWS ARISING FROM PUBLIC MEETING

- a. By-law Number 003-2025 being a by-law to amend By-law 66-01, being a Zoning By-law for the Township of Wellington North. (Wellington Plan Town of; Mount Forest S Princess St; McDonalds Survey Pt Park; Lots 10 to 12 RP 61R7789; Parts 6 to 8 RP 61R21401 with a civic address of 850 Princess Street)

RESOLUTION: 2025-062

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT By-law Number 003-2025 being a by-law to amend By-law 66-01, being a Zoning By-law for the Township of Wellington North be read and passed. (Wellington Plan Town of; Mount Forest S Princess St; McDonalds Survey Pt Park; Lots 10 to 12 RP 61R7789; Parts 6 to 8 RP 61R21401 with a civic address of 850 Princess Street)

CARRIED

QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)

No questions on agenda items registered.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL AND PUBLIC MEETING

1. Regular Meeting of Council, February 10, 2025
2. Public Meeting, February 10, 2025

RESOLUTION: 2025-063

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Burke

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council and the Public Meeting held on February 10, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

No business arising from previous meetings of Council.

IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

2a, 4b, 5a

ADOPTION OF ALL ITEMS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

RESOLUTION: 2025-064

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Hern

THAT all items listed under Items For Consideration on the February 24, 2025 Council agenda, with the exception of those items identified for separate discussion, be approved and the recommendations therein be adopted:

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Mount Forest Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting held on January 14th, 2025.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee meeting held on January 21, 2025.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Vendor Cheque Register Report dated February 18, 2025.

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CAO 2025-001 Wellington North Power Inc. Water and Sewer Billing & Collections Implementation Update;

AND THAT Council direct staff to continue the implementation of the phased transition of Water and Sewer Billing and Collections to property owners;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to review the use of "House Accounts" for Water and Sewer and bring back recommendations at a future date of Council;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to apply 2024 arrears in the amount of \$14,356.16 to the property tax bills of the property owners for the 2025 period and that any future year-end water and sewer arrears be applied to the first property tax bill in the calendar year, going forward;

AND FURTHER THAT the 2025/2026 Service Agreement with Wellington North Power Inc for the Provision of Sewer and Collection Services be approved, effective March 1, 2025;

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the by-law 013-2025 to enter into the Service Agreement.

CARRIED

CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION

RESOLUTION: 2025-065

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report C&ED 2025-011 being an update on fundraising efforts of the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Committee;

AND THAT Council approve the name of the future Mount Forest Outdoor Pool as the T.D. Smith Aquatic Centre;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to enter into an agreement with T.D. Smith Transport when the facility opens to the public;

AND FURTHER THAT the term of the naming rights agreement will be for a 20-year term commencing on the date the facility officially opens to the public.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION: 2025-066

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CLK 2025-003 for information;

AND THAT Council direct staff to enter into an agreement with Owen Sound Vault for the provision of burial services in the Mount Forest Cemetery commencing April 1, 2025;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report to Council in November 2025 as to the opportunities and challenges in contracting out the service.

CARRIED

Council directed staff to inform the England Funeral Home of the extended hours.

RESOLUTION: 2025-067

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, resolution dated February 10, 2025, regarding

EOWC Support of Canadian and Ontario Governments' Negotiations with the United States Government on Trade Tariffs.

RESOLUTION: 2025-068

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor Hern

Whereas the Canadian government is currently in negotiations with the United States (U.S.) government on their proposed 25% tariffs on Canadian goods exported to the U.S.; and

Whereas Canada's Prime Minister and Ontario's Premier have outlined several plans to combat the impact that the proposed tariffs would have on Ontario which focus on strengthening trade between Ontario and the U.S. while bringing jobs back home for workers on both sides of the border; and

Whereas the Canadian government has also outlined several ways to address the current relationship with the U.S. including establishing the Council on Canada-U.S. relations to support the federal government as it negotiates with the U.S. on tariffs; and

Whereas trade between Ontario and the U.S. is very important to our residents and local economies, and requires all levels of government to work together in the best interest of those residents; and

Whereas according to data from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, across Ontario municipalities are expected to spend between \$250 and \$290 billion on infrastructure in the next 10 years; and

Whereas Ontario municipalities have traditionally treated trade partners equally and fairly in all procurements in accordance with our established international trade treaties; and

Whereas municipalities play a crucial role as part of the Team Canada approach to combat tariffs and support businesses in our procurement for capital and infrastructure programs; and

Whereas there are trade barriers between Canadian provinces and territories.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Township of Wellington North supports the Canadian and Ontario governments on the measures they have put in-place in response to the proposed U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods and ask that they take any and all measures to protect the interests of Ontario in any upcoming trade negotiations, and ensure municipalities are part of the coordinated Team Canada approach;

And that the Canadian and Ontario governments remove any impediments to municipalities preferring Canadian companies and services for capital projects and other supplies;

And that the Canadian and Ontario governments take action to remove trade barriers between provinces as a response to U.S. tariffs and support Canadian businesses;

And that the Canadian and Ontario governments remove all legislative barriers that impact the ability to buy local, and indemnify municipalities should there be challenges to buying Canadian;

And that the Canadian and Ontario governments continue to invest in infrastructure to provide stability, jobs, and support our communities' social and economic prosperity over the long-term.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this motion be sent to:

- Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
- Premier Doug Ford

CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION

No notice of motion tabled.

COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING PROGRAM REPORT

Councillor McCabe (Ward 4):

- SVCA met virtually last week. Staff are working in the offices again following restoration work to the facilities due to a lightning strike last fall.
- ROMA met on February 19th and 20th. LAS provided a presentation.

BY-LAWS

- a. By-law Number 009-2025 being a by-law to authorize the use of optical scanning vote tabulators in the 2026 municipal election
- b. By-law Number 010-2025 being a by-law to authorize a vote by mail method in the 2026 municipal election
- c. By-law Number 011-2025 being a by-law to prohibit or regulate the alteration of property through movement of fill, placing or dumping of fill, soil stripping and/or alteration to the grade of lands within the Township of Wellington North
- d. By-law Number 012-2025 being a by-law to amend By-law Number 083-2024 being a by-law to establish fees and charges for various services provided by the municipality
- e. By-law Number 013-2025 being a by-law to authorize the execution of a Service Level Agreement between The Corporation of the Township of Wellington North and Wellington North Power Inc. for the provision of Water and Sewer Billing and Collection Services and repeal By-law 133-2022

RESOLUTION: 2025-069

Moved: Councillor Renken

Seconded: Councillor McCabe

THAT By-law Number 009-2025, 010-2025, 011-2025, 012-2025, and 013-2025 be read and passed.

CARRIED

CULTURAL MOMENT

- Celebrating J.J. Morrison

CONFIRMING BY-LAW

RESOLUTION: 2025-070

Moved: Councillor Burke

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT By-law Number 014-2025 being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North at its Regular Meeting held on February 24, 2025 be read and passed.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

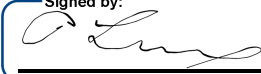
RESOLUTION: 2025-071

Moved: Councillor McCabe

Seconded: Councillor Renken

THAT the Regular Council meeting of February 24, 2025 be adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

CARRIED

Signed by:

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MAYOR

DocuSigned by:
Karren Wallace
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CLERK